



# The University of Montana – Helena

## COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

### Associate of Applied Science Degrees

Accounting & Business  
Automotive Technology—NATEF Certified  
Aviation Maintenance Technology  
Computer Technology  
(Network Administration, Programming, Webmaster)  
Construction Technology  
Diesel Technology  
Fire & Rescue  
Machine Tool Technology  
Named to *Community College Week's* list of  
Top 50 Degree Producers in Precision Production  
Nursing—100% NCLEX Exam Pass Rate  
Office Technology  
Water Quality Technology  
Water Quantity Technology  
Welding Technology

### Associate of Arts Degrees

Accounting  
Business  
Computers  
English  
Fine Arts  
General Science  
History  
Interior Space Planning & Design  
Mathematics  
Mental Health Direct Care  
Social Sciences

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# What *is* our story?

UM-Helena has evolved into a comprehensive college. Enrollment numbers in 2010 indicate that 38% of the academic population is seeking a transfer degree that affords them the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree at a four year college. These students are the fastest growing segment of our population. This is a departure from our roots as a vocational training center. Currently the "trades" population comprises 15% of the overall student population with another 29% of the students seeking degrees in technical areas such as Fire & Rescue, Nursing and Computer Technology. Statistical information from the graduating class of 2010 indicates an 74% placement rate. This is down from 91%, which is still an impressive feat considering the current economic climate. Two year education plays an integral role in the development of Montana's workforce.

Beyond our academic programs, UM-Helena offers training through Continuing Education. In the 2010 fiscal year, this program served over 1,100 students, both working and retired, who sought training that would enhance their business operations, industry knowledge or provide an avenue for personal enrichment.

These statistics don't tell the entire UM-Helena story.

Is the real story our growth? Enrollment in 2010 is up 84% over 2002.

Our story has always included workforce development. Many of the employees at Boeing Helena are graduates of UM-Helena. We recently coordinated with the Montana DNRC to create the Water Quality and Quantity Technology Programs. A local construction company offers an additional \$5/hour to applicants who are graduates of our construction program because they know they're worth it.

Many employees at UM-Helena will tell you our story is inspiration. Inspiration from:

- the recently laid off middle aged man who refuses to succumb to a poor economy and strives to make himself marketable with a degree in Machine Tool Technology.
- the Native American student driven to one day return to his reservation as a counselor to "help people who are in the mess I found myself in."
- the student in his young twenties facing his sixth open heart surgery yet schedules it in the summer between his spring and fall semesters so he won't miss school.
- the young, somewhat sleepless, single mother who seeks a degree to help raise her family's standard of living while she raises her family
- the homeless teenage student who "couch surfs" at friends' houses allowing him to stay in *Access to Success* and obtain a high school diploma.

These are merely a handful of the stories that the halls of UM-Helena's campuses are filled with. It's possible that stories like this contribute to our low employee turnover rate. It's only 3%. Our employees believe in our mission and they believe in helping our students become tomorrow's workforce. Their passion carries through to our students. Our students believe in themselves and that belief and the passion they bring to their academic career and ultimately their jobs, their family and their community just may be the real UM-Helena story.

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